



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
ON
EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION**

The Department of State of the United States of America and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation (hereinafter “the Sides”),

Guided by the Joint Plan of the Education Subgroup of the U.S.-Russia Bilateral Presidential Commission’s Working Group on Education, Culture, Sports and Media, issued in Moscow in December 2009;

Seeking to expand cooperation between educational, scientific, and research institutions of the United States of America and the Russian Federation; and

Desiring to promote further development of mutual understanding between the peoples of both countries through educational activities that provide a wider exchange of knowledge and professional skills;

Have reached mutual understanding on the following:

Section 1

1. Relying on their own organizational, financial, and other resources, the Sides intend to carry out joint programs and projects of cooperation (hereinafter “Programs and Projects”) in the fields of education, science, and innovation, in the interests of educational, economic and social development of, and mutual understanding between, the peoples of the United States of America and the Russian Federation. Such Programs and Projects may include the Fulbright Program, among others.

2. The Sides intend to work together in direct association with the activities of the U.S.- Russia Bilateral Presidential Commission (hereinafter “BPC”) created in July 2009, to identify areas of cooperation and to pursue joint projects and activities that strengthen

strategic stability, international security, economic well-being and the development of ties between the American and Russian people.

3. This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter “MOU”), which envisages expanding and deepening the scope and framework for cooperation, is intended to provide a basis for the overall relations between the Sides in developing the Programs and Projects.

Section 2

1. Joint Programs and Projects may be developed on the basis of bilateral or multilateral arrangements between the Sides and with third parties, concluded in furtherance of this MOU, which specify the content of the activities, the obligations of the Sides, and the corresponding budgets.

2. To develop cooperation further with respect to the Programs and Projects, the Sides plan to enlist the participation of government and private educational, scientific, and innovation organizations and industrial enterprises, as well as individual specialists (hereinafter “Program and Project Participants”).

3. The Education Subgroup of the BPC Working Group on Education, Culture, Sports and Media (hereinafter “ESG”) will serve as an advisory group with respect to the proposal, coordination, and implementation of activities in the areas of cooperation provided for by this MOU.

4. It is expected that the ESG is to consist of an equal number of representatives appointed by each Side. All decisions of the ESG are to be reached by consensus.

5. The ESG is to establish procedures and basic principles to guide its work and may develop procedures for considering and resolving operational issues that may arise during the development of activities envisioned by this MOU.

6. The ESG is to establish agendas for its meetings and to decide in advance the time and location of each meeting. The Sides intend for the ESG to meet once a year, meeting location to alternate between the United States of America and the Russian Federation.

7. Extraordinary meetings of the ESG, as determined crucial by the Sides, may be conducted in the form of teleconferences or through correspondence.

Section 3

1. Within the framework of the ESG, the Sides intend to develop substantive and organizational aspects of cooperation, a list of Programs and Projects, and rules governing cooperation.

2. The Sides intend to notify each other in advance of any changes in Programs and Projects being implemented and are to consult on beginning new Programs and Projects.

3. The Sides intend to promote coverage of their progress in developing and implementing joint Programs and Projects of cooperation in the mass media, including via their own Internet resources.

4. Each Side intends to provide financing based on the availability of funds and guided by procedures established in each country. In this respect, the Sides intend to give priority to Programs and Projects being funded in connection with this MOU.

5. The Sides expect to implement all Programs and Projects in a manner consistent with the legislation of each of the countries of the Sides. The Sides are to provide information to each other and consult on issues concerning legislation that affects the implementation of Programs and Projects contemplated by this MOU.

Section 4

1. This MOU may be modified by mutual written consent between the Sides.

2. This MOU is expected to commence as of the date of signature.

3. In the event that one Side wishes to discontinue this MOU, that Side is to endeavor to provide the other Side with six (6) months' advance written notice of its intent to discontinue.

4. Any Program or Project not completed by the time the MOU is discontinued may be continued to completion by mutual consent of the Sides.

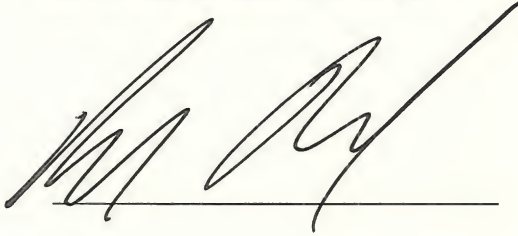
5. The Sides intend to implement the provisions of this MOU consistent with their terms of reference and their respective laws and regulations, including those governing the availability of funds.

6. The Sides intend to notify each other in a timely manner of contentious issues and difficulties related to development or implementation of the Programs and Projects contemplated by this MOU. Disputes may be resolved by mutual consultation.

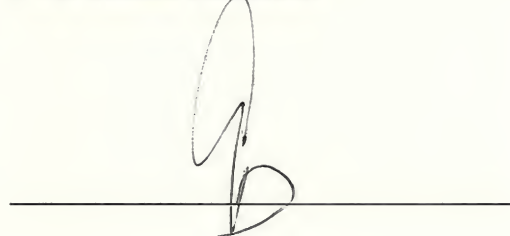
7. This MOU is not an international agreement and does not give rise to international legal rights and obligations.

Signed in Moscow on 10 February, 2012, in two originals, each in the English and Russian languages.

For the Department of State
of the United States of America

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end, positioned above a horizontal line.

For the Ministry of Education and Science
of the Russian Federation

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large loop and a long horizontal stroke at the end, positioned above a horizontal line.